



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1997

No. 23

Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Long, of St. Agnes Parish, Sellersville, PA. He is a guest of Senator SANTORUM of Pennsylvania.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Long, of St. Agnes Parish, offered the following prayer:

All powerful and ever-living God, in You we live and move and have our being. We ask You to look with favor on the Members of this Senate. Give them wisdom, strength, and vision in their deliberations. We humbly admit that we cannot discharge our duties without Your supernatural help. Our own natural abilities, unaided by Your assistance, are inadequate as we struggle to bring peace and justice throughout our beloved country and our world. You are the source of all the good that is in each one of us. Give us the insight and inspiration to meet the challenges that we face.

O God, Maker and Lover of peace, to know You is to live, to serve You is to reign. All our faith is in Your saving help. We offer this day to praise and glorify You in all we say and do. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SANTORUM].

WELCOMING REV. MSGR. MICHAEL J. LONG

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I join you in welcoming a constituent of mine and a great minister to the people of Pennsylvania in Sellersville and throughout the Philadelphia diocese, Monsignor Long. I welcome him here today to the U.S. Senate and thank him for his outstanding service, now 43 years, to the diocese of Philadelphia and 14 years at St. Agnes Parish in Sellersville.

I appreciate, also, your moving and wonderful prayer. Thank you, and enjoy the day here in the U.S. Senate.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader of the U.S. Senate, Mr. LOTT, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, today the Senate will be immediately resuming consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 1, the constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget. By unanimous consent, Senator Graham of Florida will be recognized to debate his amendment. Following 90 minutes of debate on Senator GRAHAM's amendment, a vote will occur on or in relation to the Graham amendment at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Following that vote, Senator FEINGOLD will be recognized to debate on one of his amendments, and we will continue debate on several pending amendments with those votes stacked this afternoon. I do not believe we have an exact time agreed to yet when that will occur. We will notify the Members, when we have the 12:30 vote, when the next vote will actually occur.

Following those stacked votes, we will turn to Senator BUMPERS' amendment, with additional rollcall votes expected during today's session. We will also, hopefully, get a final agreement on all the amendments that may be offered, and then we will be able to give the Members some information about what to expect, if anything, on Friday and also on Monday.

Even though we had some disappointment yesterday with one of the Senators who indicated he would be voting for this amendment last year and now has indicated he will not, I encourage my colleagues to remember the vote has not been taken yet, and I still am hopeful that we are going to find a way to have the number of votes, the 67,

that is required to pass this constitutional amendment for a balanced budget. We are still working on it, and I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in this effort.

I thank the Senator from Florida. We will be look forward to hearing his comments on this amendment.

I yield the floor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR— SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from Florida.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Ms. Barbara Ramey, a fellow working in my office, and Mr. David Hawkins, an intern, be permitted the privilege of the floor during debate this morning on the amendment which I offered.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank the Chair.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 1) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget.

The Senate resumed consideration of the joint resolution.

Pending:

Hollings-Specter-Bryan amendment No. 9, to add a provision proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

Leahy (for Kennedy) amendment No. 10, to provide that only Congress shall have authority to enforce the provisions of the balanced budget constitutional amendment, unless Congress passes legislation specifically granting enforcement authority to the President or State or Federal courts.

Graham-Robb amendment No. 7, to strike the limitation on debt held by the public.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S1689